Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will place all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-27 (Cancelled)

28. (Currently Amended) A method ~~of minimizing surface area friction forces between a golf ball and a golf tee in order to increase~~ for increasing the distance a golf ball may be driven by reducing the surface friction of the ball support surface of a golf tee comprising the steps of:

a) forming a layer consisting essentially of a friction reducing polymeric material;

b) shaping ~~the~~ a surface of the tee for supporting ~~which supports~~ the ball ~~so said surface slopes downwardly and away from points where the ball contacts the tee and~~ by forming a central depression in said ball support surface, said depression having a circumference substantially less than that of a golf ball, said depression having a peripheral rim upon which the golf ball is supported;

c) ~~providing a contact surface that will be between the ball and the tee by applying~~ securing said friction reducing layer ~~consisting essentially~~ of a friction reducing polymeric material to said shaped surface; ~~of the tee which supports the ball~~

d) whereby a golf ball driven from said friction reducing layer travels a measurably longer distance than a ball driven from a surface without said friction reducing material.

29. (Cancelled)

30. (Current) The method of claim 28 wherein the polymeric material is a fluorinated polymer selected from the group consisting of: polytetrafluoroethylene, fluorinated ethylene-propylene copolymers, perfluoroalkoxy polymers, and ethylene/tetrafluoroethylene copolymers.

31. (Currently Amended) A composite, muilti-component ~~An improved~~ golf tee comprising:

a) a head ~~whose~~ including a configured upper surface ~~is a ball~~ comprising a golf ball support surface;

b) a shaft for supporting said head, said shaft being insertable into the ground;

c) a friction reducing polymer having a surface friction at least as low as that of polytetrafluoroethylene forming a surface layer covering said ~~ball~~ support surface, said surface layer conforming with the shape of said support surface; ~~consisting essentially of a friction reducing polymer having a surface friction at least as low as that provided by~~ and,

d) ~~said ball support surface being shaped so that~~ said surface layer providing ~~that conforms thereto will be~~ is the only contact surface supporting the ball on the tee thereby allowing the ball to be driven a measurably greater distance than a ball driven from a tee without said surface.

32. (Currently Amended) ~~The tee of claim 31 including an adhesive which has been applied to the surface layer to adhere same to the head of the tee~~ A method for increasing the distance a golf ball may be driven from a tee comprising the step of: reducing the surface friction of a ball support surface of the tee by providing a ball support surface consisting essentially of a polymeric material having a coefficient of friction at least as low as that of polytetrafluoroethylene.

33. (New) The method of claim 32 wherein the step of reducing the surface friction of the ball support surface comprises:

a) forming a conforming cover layer for the support surface of said tee, said covering layer consisting essentially of a friction reducing polymer having a surface friction at least as low as that provided by polytetrafluoroethylene; and,

b) applying said cover layer to said ball support surface to form a composite tee; whereby when a ball is placed on said tee it may be driven a measurable distance therefrom which is greater than the distance a ball can be driven from a tee not so covered.

34. (New) The golf tee of claim 33 wherein said cover is adhered to said support surface by an adhesive.

35. (New) The golf tee of claim 31 wherein said surface layer comprises a shaped sheet adhered to said upper surface;

36. (New) The golf tee of claim 31 wherein said surface is a multi-component shaped sheet having one side comprised of an adhesive.